

The Caledonian Mercury.

Edinburgh, Tuesday, December 23, 1729.

From the Daily Post Boy, Decem. 16.

Hague, Decem. 16.

THE Conduct of some News-writers on this Side the Water, as well as on yours, is pretty odd: One thinks the Affairs of Europe, the Interests of Princes, and the Transactions at the principal Courts of so little Importance to the Publick, that you'll scarce see a Paragraph that can properly be called *News*, in his Papers from Year's End to Year's End. This poor Mortal is like the Tribe of Issachar, little entertaining, but very inoffensive; a Sort of Drone, that in a Garden of Flowers does not know where to gather Honey. But we have another sort of political Writers, who being active by Nature, and angry by Inclination, are Undertakers at large, and (like Esop's Fellow Slaves, that could do every Thing) leave nothing for others to do. They pretend to the *freshest* Advices, and indeed so they are in a literal Sense: But they are so bold and assuming withall, that they would every now and then persuade the Publick, that they cannot distinguish between genuine and borrowed Merit, between Truth and Falshood. Hence they make no Scruple to insert feign'd Speeches, and imaginary Articles of Peace, before they are so much as ratified, or communicate to the Cabinets of Princes: Which has been the Fate of that of Seville, and so occasioned this Digression; several of our doughty Writers having pretended to publish such Terms of it, as do not carry the least Shew of a Probability.

To proceed to Business: M. Vander-meer, our Ambassador at the Court of Spain, has signed this Treaty, and will be empowered to make the Exchange in due Time.

The Imperial Court has sent Orders to all the Officers in their Service, in Italy and Germany, to have their Troops complete against early the next Spring; and that nothing may be wanting, the necessary Sums will be forthwith sent them, to enable them to obey. The Subsidies the Emperor seeks of his Hereditary Countries, are proportioned to

his extraordinary Armaments, and far exceed those of the last Year. In regard the Subsidies from Spain are ceased, Money must be raised from their Hereditary Countries, already burdened with prodigious Armies.

The King of Spain will not now fill up the Embassy to the Court of Vienna, which the Duke de Bourbonville is to quit, if we are rightly informed, without taking Leave. Thus the Treaty of Vienna, lately of so formidable an Aspect, has proved but short-liv'd; and the frightful Consequences of the Union of the two chief Powers of Europe, the Marriage of the Infant Don Carlos with the eldest Daughter of the Emperor, and all the dire &c.'s in Embryo, have ended in Abortion.

'Tis reported here, That Count Zinzendorf, Envoy Extraordinary of the Emperor here, will leave us shortly, to go reside in the Circle of the Lower Saxony.

The Duke of Lorain is making Preparations for his Departure for the Court of France. The Proceedings against the Peculators, or Embezlers of the publick Money, is carried on in that Dutchy, and they reckon that Enquiry will bring in a great deal of Cash.

We have nothing new from Brisswic, where the Differences remain in the old Situation.

Ostend Stock is risen again to 50 per Cent. above Par, occasioned by the Rumour that the Company will not be abolished by the Congress of Soissons.

London, Decem. 16. On Saturday last died of the Stone, at his House in Harley Square, Anthony Collins, Esq; He was a great Promoter of Literature in all its Parts, and an immoveable Asserter of universal Liberty in all Civil and Religious Matters. He was the reputed Author of the *Discourse on Free-Thinking*, the *Grounds of the Christian Religion*, the *Scheme of Literal Prophecy*, &c. He is likewise supposed to have wrote, in conjunction with the late Mr. Toland and a Civilian now living, *The Rights of the Christian Religion*.



The *Anne*, Cap. Allan, bound from Leith to London, sunk on Saturday Night a little below the Hope, but Endeavours are using to weigh her up again.

Wye's Letter verbatim, London, Decem. 18.

Since our last arrived a Mail from France and one from Flanders.

WE hear that Robert Johnson Esq; is made Governor of South Carolina, in Room of Francis Nicholson Esq; deceased, with full Power to constitute and ordain Laws, and appoint Judges and Commissioners of Oyer and Terminer, and likewise to pardon Offenders for any Crimes, even Treason, as he shall think proper.

Yesterday George Edwards Esq; was sworn in before the Lord Chancellor, Deputy-Register in the High Court of Chancery. The same Day also Mr. Serjeant Birch was sworn in Curitor Baron of Exchequer, in Room of Mr. Baron Thompson.

The Reverend Mr. Hutchison is appointed Lecturer for St. Catharine's Creed Church, in Room of Mr. Smith lately chosen Lecturer of St. Giles's in the Fields.

The Letters from Copenhagen by the last Mail from Holland, make no mention of a Treaty being signed, as was reported, between the Kings of Denmark and Prussia, but that the Commanders of of the 8 Battallions, and of the 6 Regiments of Foot, to hold themselves in a Readiness to march on the first Command, have had Notice given them to provide themselves with all things necessary to take the Field, which makes it believed they are designed for the Service of some foreign Potentate.

Those from Stockholm say, it was currently reported that their Sovereign designed to send an Ambassador to the Court of Spain, to propose the settling a Treaty of Commerce between the two Nations.

Since our last two Rich homeward bound Merchant Ships have been entred at the Custom-house, which have repndred the Imports very great, and our Merchants are so much encouraged, that the Exports to Spain increase daily; and as the Spring advances, we flatter ourselves with the Prospect of a flourishing Trade. S. S. Stock 105 1 4th, ditto Annuities 105 1 8th.

They are busy at Portsmouth in paying off the Ships of War, and reducing them, in which Affair

a great Progress is already made.

The *St. Quentin*, Captain Godley from Zant, but lately from Gibraltar, is arrived there, and brings an Account, That since the signing of the Treaty of Seville, the Spaniards begin to pay Civilities to the Garrison, and there was Appearance that the Town's People would soon have the Freedom of Commerce with the Country, or at least Permission to buy any Necessaries they should have need of.

Some private Letters from Leghorn mention That an English and French Ship having agreed with some Turkish Officers in the Archipelago, for each a lading of Corn, the Officers afterwards refused to stand to their said Agreement, upon which the two Ships being of considerable Force, as they fired on the Town, and killed several of the Turks, and that the Mate of the English being ashore, was imprisoned, and the two Ships came away without him.

We hear that the Dutch are under great Consternation at the Accounts of the sudden Rupture of the Algerines, and of their having taken several of their Ships.

Another of the S. S. Company's Ships, named the *King William*, is fitting out at Deptford, to sail for Buenos Ayres, and 4 Ships are preparing to sail for St. David's Straights, and the rest of the Ships for Greenland, will sail much sooner than they did last Year.

From the Evening Post, Decem. 18.

Stockholm, Dec. 2. A Rumour goes current, that our Sovereign designs to send an Ambassador to the Court of Spain, at propose a Treaty of Commerce between the two Nations. His Majesty being some Days past a hunting Bears, one of the Creatures became so furious, that he wounded several Persons; and even his Majesty was in great Danger: For the Horse he rode being terrified, took the Bridle Bit in his Teeth and run away full speed into a neighbouring Forest, where the King was thrown to the Ground but was not hurt. After this the Horse leapt down a Precipice and was dashed to Pieces.

Rome, Dec. 3. This Court seems to be thunderstruck at the sudden Change of Affairs in Spain. However, the more the Pope is pressed to engage himself in one or the other Party, the more Reluctant he seems to continue Neuter, to avoid giving

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Offence either to the Emperor or to the King of Spain.

London, Dec. 18. Two Countrymen who were in St. James's Park, left the Walks and went upon the Grass, the Centry call'd to come off, which they not regarded, thinking they had done no harm. Upon which he came up to them with many hard Words. Whereupon one of them said, alas! Sir, we did not think our selves worthy to walk with so many fine Folks; but thought we could give no Offence to walk, where Cows walk.

One Evening last Week, about 7 o' Clock, one of the Hampstead Stage-coaches was stopt by two Highwaymen at the End of Figg-lane, in Hampstead-road, in returning to Hampstead, who robb'd the Passengers of Money, Rings, &c. to the Value of 5 l.

On Sunday Evening another of the Hampstead Coaches was robbed there also.

Several Gentlemen were robbed the same Evening in the same Lane.

One Tuesday his Grace the Duke of Hamilton and Brandon was at Court, and waited upon his Majesty, being the first Time since his Arrival into England, and was most graciously received.

From the St. James's Evening Post, Dec. 18.

Vienna, Dec. 10. The Arch-duchesses are all indisposed with Colds, and 'tis reckoned not less than 60,000 Persons are ill in this City of the same Distemper. 'Tis assured that the Court of Spain has declared to the Ministers of the Emperor, that no more Subsidies, as formerly, will be paid to his Imperial Majesty.

Berlin, Dec. 16. The King of Prussia has nominated about a 100 of his Generals and principal Officers, to accompany him to the King of Poland's Review of all the Saxon Troops near Torgan, which is to begin in May, and to last four Weeks, wherein they will see all that is practised in the Art of War. Orders are actually given for augmenting the Prussian Dragoons; and they talk of raising 10 new Battalions early in the Spring. The Prince of Anhalt-Dessau, a General in his Prussian Majesty's Service, is shortly expected here, to assist at a great Council of War; and his Highness has received a particular Intimation from the King of Poland, to come with his Sons and see the Review above mentioned. The Congress of Brunswick is now at a Stand, till the Return of an Express sent to London.

Dresden, Dec. 14. The King being informed that the Inhabitants of the Country, frightened at the Motions the Troops are making, to assemble in several Bodies, fled into the Town with their best Effects, and that they abandoned the Tillage of their Lands, his Majesty has published an Ordinance, forbidding them under very severe Penalties to leave their Habitations; assuring them at the same Time, that the Order which has been sent to the Generals to draw the Troops together, was only a Precaution against the Designs which some Powers may have to disturb the Tranquillity of Poland. The Grandees of that Kingdom, who had the greatest Hand in the Affairs of Thorn, have beseech'd his Majesty to prevent the proposing of any thing on that Head, in the ensuing Assembly of the Senators, and to maintain the Privileges of the Republick, which seem in Danger of being invaded. Our Letters from Warsaw inform us, that there was a Talk of a Project, according to which the Nonconformists are to enjoy the free Exercise of their Religion in Poland, on condition that the Protestant Powers will grant to the Roman Catholicks the like Liberty in their Dominions.

London, Decem. 18. One Buck, of the first Regiment of Guards, who was lately reduced from a Corporal to a private Centinel, upon a Misdemeanour, has since sworn himself to be a Roman Catholick; upon which he was taken into Custody, and is to be tried by a Court Martial to morrow, or on Saturday next.

Lieutenant Lindsay, Brother to the Earl of Crawford, who together with his Man and two Waterwan were cast away at London Bridge, at 6 o' Clock Yesterday 7 Night in the Morning, has with great Pains and Expence recovered his Chest and Portmantua with his Cloaths, which are mostly spoiled. This was the seventh Time that this Lieutenant has saved his Life by swimming.

The Gentleman who was Tutor to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, when at Hanover, is appointed Tutor to his Royal Highness the Duke, and is now coming over for that Purpose.

From the Whitehall Evening-Post, Dec. 18.

Hague, Decem. 20. There is as yet no Progress made in the Conferences of Brunswick, where the Prussians dispute the Ground Inch by Inch.

The new Levies are carried on throughout the Electorate of Hanover.

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The Enlargement of the East India Company of Denmark, and the Establishment of that of Altena, are now no longer looked on as chimerical Projects, since their Danish Majesties, and the principal Nobility have advanced Money enough, not only to pay all their Debts, but to revive their Credit with the Subjects of the Great Mogul.

All the publick News Papers speak of an approaching Reform of the Troops of France; but private Letters from good Hands at Paris, are not of that Opinion; they say on the contrary, That not one Man will be disbanded, so long as the Emperor continues augmenting his Forces, and goes on with his military Preparations.

Hague, Decem. 23. 'Tis advised from Milan, that several covered Carriages were arrived there from Germany, loaded with Ammunition, Baggage, &c. and that they expected there 2 Regiments of Foot and one of Horse from Sicily.

Moscow, Nov. 20. There arrived here last Week from Derbent a Courier, with Advice that Sultan Esref, who with 40,000 Men was encamped near the Caspian Sea, in Expectation of a very considerable Reinforcement of Turks and Tartars, had broke up his Camp, and directed his March for Ispahan with the utmost Precipitation, on Intelligence that Shah Thamas was entred Persia with an Army of 100,000 strong, composed of the Forces of the Emperor of China and the Grand Mogul. These Advices occasion'd the holding a Council, wherein it was resolved to employ Part of our Emperor's Forces now in the Neighbourhood of the Caspian Sea, in the Usurper Esref's Service. The Duke of Eiria, the King of Spain's Minister, has been for several Days bypast very ill of a Fever.

ADVERTISEMENT S.

¶ The Creditors of GEORGE HOME of WHITEFIELD, are hereby advertised to meet at the Laigh Coffehouse in Edinburgh, upon Tuesday the sixth of January next, at Three of the Clock after Noon. Such as cannot attend in Person, are intreated to send their Doers fully instructed to agree to such Measures as shall be proposed for the due Management of the Estate.

¶ That the LODGING lately belonging to the deceased Bailie DAVID DENOON of the Canongate, now posses'd by Hector Monro Saddler in Canongate, lying on

the North side of the Canongate-head; having two Entries thereto, the one from Leith-wynd, and the other from the High Street, being but one Pair of Stairs up from the Street, and having seven Fire-Rooms including the Kitchen, and which has the Privilege of a Garret: It is to be exposed to Sale by voluntary Roup, in the said House, upon the 15th of January next, betwixt the Hours of 2 & 4 after Noon. The House pays now £. 12 sterl. of Rent, and will be entred at 10 Years Purchase. The Progress of the Rights of the said Lodging, and Conditions of Roup, are to be seen in the Hands of WILLIAM ROSS Writer in Edinburgh, at his House at the Back of the Cross, or with JOHN MURRAY, Merchant-Taylor in the Canongate-head.

¶ That the GREAT HOUSE newly built by James Douglas Merchant in Dalkeith, consisting of fourteen Fire-Rooms with Closets, all well box'd, and newly finish'd, having large and convenient Officehouses, a fine Garden, with young Fruit trees, and well accommodate with good Water from a Draw-well in the Middle of the Close; lying in the South Crofts of Dalkeith: Is to be exposed to publick Roup, upon the second Thursday of February next, 'twixt the Hours of 10 & 12 before Noon, within the House of JAMES MILN Clerk of Dalkeith, in whose Hands the Progress of Writs, &c. may be seen.

¶ A Collection of curious and valuable BOOKS, being the Library of the late Lord Colville, will begin to be Sold, by way of Auction, on Monday the 12th Day of January 1730, at Mr. DRUMMOND's Auction-house in the West-part of the Royal Exchange, Edinburgh. Catalogues are to be had at the Place of Sale.

¶ To be Sold, to the highest Bidder, at Thornhill in the Shire of Dumfries, on the 15th Day of January 1730, a large Wood of fine OLD OAK, growing on the Grounds of the Barony of Keir, about seven Miles distant from the Town of Dumfries. The Conditions of Sale to be seen in the Hands of JOHN DALRYMPLE of Waterside, at his House near Thornhill; JOHN NEILSON of Chapel, at his House in Dumfries; and THOMAS GOLDIE Writer to the Signet, at his Writing-chamber in Brounhill's Square, Laun-market, Edinburgh.

¶ That on the Second of February next, there is to be exposed by voluntary Roup, in the House of Alexander Primrose in Elphinstone-Pans in Stirlingshire, a considerable Quantity of GROWING FIR-TREES of all Sizes, fit for any kind of Building, either in Wholesale or Parcels. Any Person may there buy, or give Proposals thereanent to the said Alexander Primrose, (who will shew the said Trees any Time before the Sale) or to Mr. James Macewen Bookseller in Edinburgh, at his Shop there, in order to be by Mr. Macewen transmitted to the Proprietor. The Fir-Trees grow within a Quarter a Mile of the Water of Forth, where Vessels of any Burden can be commodiously loaded at all Seasons.

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